

FHRI Fund Communique #11

6 November 2024 Meeting

I am pleased to provide an update on the outcomes of our November 2024 Advisory Council meeting, which focused on key areas of progress and engagement within our sector.

FHRI Fund evaluation

The council reviewed presentations from the Nous Group, which conducted an environmental scan and current assessment of health and medical research and innovation priorities and funding opportunities for Western Australia, and from Scyne Advisory, which presented preliminary findings from the FHRI Fund evaluation. The Final Report will be available in early 2025.

The evaluation assesses progress towards meeting the objectives of the fund's legislation and aims to ensure that it continues to provide secure, impactful funding for initiatives that enhance WA's health system, drives economic prosperity, and positions our state as a leader in health and medical research and innovation. Thank you to everyone who participated in recent consultations; your input is instrumental as we work to develop the next FHRI Fund Strategy and Priorities.

Expert committees

The Research Expert Committee has now been established and I am pleased to welcome the [inaugural members](#), announced recently by the Minister for Medical Research, who were selected for their diverse expertise and experience across various fields and career stages.

The council has also agreed on membership for the Innovation Expert Committee, with new members expected to be announced shortly. These 2 new committees join the existing Aboriginal Health Expert Committee and I look forward to working alongside each to further WA's leadership in health and medical research and innovation.

Sector abstracts

In late 2023, the sector was invited to submit abstracts addressing challenges or opportunities relevant to the FHRI Fund. Over 60 diverse submissions were received, with a further 3 abstracts selected for presentations to the council at the November meeting.

The presentations focused on commercialisation, cardiovascular health, and allied health and translation, and provided valuable insights into critical issues and opportunities. Council members may consult further with abstract authors as part of the FHRI Fund strategy development.

December 2024 Open Day

Finally, I am excited to announce that the December 2024 FHRI Fund Open Day will be delivered as part of West Tech Fest and will be held in Fremantle on 6 December 2024, co-hosted by the Office of Medical Research and Innovation and the University of Notre Dame Australia's Fremantle campus.

Themed '*Health Technology for the Future*,' the event will spotlight dynamic developments in WA's health and medical research, with a focus on leading med-tech start-ups. Attendees can expect to hear from innovative speakers and learn about upcoming programs and new grant recipients. Registrations are now [open](#), and I look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration. Together, we are advancing health and medical research and innovation in Western Australia.

Kind regards



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